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AIDE-MEMOIRE

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East Timor diplomatic & intelligence digest

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Comissão Directiva da FRETILIN • Comando das FALINTIL • Resistência Nacional Estudantil de Timor Leste - RENETIL

FACT SHEET 2

WOULD EAST TIMOR BE A VIABLE INDEPENDENT STATE?

With almost 19 000 sq.km of territory and a population of 700 000 people, East Timor is a viable independent entity.

1) <u>Some Facts</u>

: East Timor is potentially self-sufficient in agricultural produce such as rice, corn, potatoes and other vegetables.

: It has rich fishing potential

: It is a potential tourist market serving Northern Australia and South-East Asia

: It has rich reserves of oil, natural gas, manganese and marble. Its oil reserves are beleived to be among the 25th largest in the world.

: There are sufficient university graduates in most disciplines to administer the country. Approximately 500 East Timorese graduates reside in Portugal, Mozambique, Australia, and Indonesia covering fields such as medicine, veterinary science, law, economics and agriculture.

11) <u>Economic policies of an independent East Timor in the first 10 years</u>.

: Development and implementation of an Investment Code governing foreign investments to be adopted in the first year of independence.

: Emphasis on the development of agricultural, animal husbandry and fishing industries through small-scale mechanization.

: Development of transportation infrastructures.

Address:

: Development of tourism industry in partnership with foreign investments.

: Oil, natural gas exploration/drilling.

: Exploration of manganese and marble resources.

Foreign Relations

An independent East Timorese government would pursue the following goals:

: Membership in ASEAN and other regional institutions and initiatives such as the South Pacific Forum.

: Close diplomatic ties with Australia, New Zealand and other ASEAN countries.

: Economic, scientific and cultural cooperation with the above.

: Seek consensus in regional security matters.

: Work towards closer economic integration of the small island nations of the South Pacific.

: Work towards the enhancement of North/South relations.

: Support all efforts towards demilitarization and denuclearization of the entire region.

: Demilitarization and guaranteed neutrality to be negotiated with its immediate neighbours and the United Nations Security Council.

: Active promotion of human rights in the region, supporting the enhancement of United Nations human rights mechanisms.

: Ratification of all human rights instruments in the first year of independence.